

Planning Department

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Historic Preservation Commission

Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 – 5:00PM

City Hall, 2nd Floor Auditorium

All votes to be taken by roll call.

Commissioners Present: Angie Presby, Alex MacPhail, Diana Huot, Andrew Brady, Thomas Hardy, and Chris Delano

Excused: Matt Ellis and Stephen Ryan

City Staff: Emily Cole-Prescott, City Planner

Public: Tim Myers, Renewal by Anderson

1. Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Chris Delano was appointed as a regular member for the purpose of a quorum. Associate members will be allowed to participate in the discussion of applications, but only regular members are allowed to vote on COAs.
3. The Historic Preservation Commission moved to waive the reading of the August 8th, 2023 meeting minutes and accept the meeting minutes as drafted by staff. *Motion was made by Thomas Hardy and seconded by Andrew Bracy. The motion passed.*
4. The Historic Preservation Commission moved to accept the agenda. *Motion was made by Andrew Bracy, seconded by Thomas Hardy, and passed by unanimous vote.*
5. **Public Hearing:** Certificate of Appropriateness review for exterior renovations specific to the replacement of windows at property owned by Sandy Cho located at 331 Main Street, Unit 6 (Map 32, Lot 102-6) in the Main and Beach (MB) Zoning District.

Tim Myers provided an overview of the application to the Commission. Application photos were reviewed. Tim Myers confirmed that the size of the windows would not be changing.

Thomas Hardy made a motion to find the COA application complete. Chris Delano seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Thomas Hardy made a motion to open the public hearing. Chris Delano seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. No one from the public chose to speak. Andrew Bracy made a motion to close the public hearing. Thomas Hardy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Thomas Hard made a motion to accept the accept the findings of fact as prepared by staff. Chris seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

A Certificate of Appropriateness for 331 Main Street, Unit 6, was issued for window replacement as presented in the packet. Thomas Hardy made the motion to issue to the COA, Andrew Bracy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Public Hearing:** Certificate of Appropriateness review for interior and exterior rehab of building previously damaged by fire on property owned by Biddeford Housing located at 90 Temple Street (Map 38, Lot 168) in the High Density Residential (HDR) Zone.

Guy Gagnon gave an overview of the project. The Historic Preservation Commission issued a COA for 90 Temple Street in June 2022. A year passed without any significant work beginning, so the initial approval lapsed in Jun 2023. No changes to the project have been made since the last COA approval. Guy Gagnon is expected to complete preliminary work to shore up the building.

Andrew Bracy moved to find the application complete. Chris Delano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andrew Bracy moved to open the public hearing for the 90 Temple Street application. Chris Delano seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. No one from the public chose to speak. Chris Delano moved to close the public hearing, Andrew Bracy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Guy stated that Biddeford Housing is pursuing this project, but in reality, the organization should be called the Biddeford Saco Housing Authority. Repairs to the porch and deck will be done based on need and overall deterioration of these elements. The incremental loses in historic preservation were discussed as important factors in restoration. The elevation plans proposed in the June 2022 application were reviewed again.

Thomas Hardy moved to approve the findings of fact as presented by staff. Chris Delano seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Andrew Bracy moved to issue approval of Certificate of Appropriateness for 90 Temple Street. Chris seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

7. **Saco Community History Project – Research Subcommittee:**

The Commission reviewed materials in the meeting packet from the Research Subcommittee. Commission members discussed recognize the dummy railroad as a way of connecting downtown Saco and Camp Ellis

Alex MacPhail is serving on the Research Subcommittee as a Commission Member. Anatole Brown is also working on research for this project. Focusing on the theme of “People, Places and Progress” may be a way to gather more information and help with the project.

8. **Subcommittee Updates:**

Board discussed subcommittee scheduling. Angie Presby stated her interest in joining both the Welcome Letter Subcommittee and Rendezvous Point Burying Ground Subcommittee.

New potential subcommittees were also discussed including a Plaque Program Subcommittee and a Statue Subcommittee. There is interest in placing a statue on Saco Island to commemorate the Factory Girl's Strike and the Labor Movement.

9. Administrative Updates:

Chris moved to direct City Staff to enter HPC into a membership for NAPC for \$100. Thomas Hardy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. New Business:

No new business was discussed during the meeting.

11. Adjournment at 6:33 pm.